



# NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

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## County Commits \$25 Million to Secure \$65.5 Million in Transportation Funding

**SAN BERNARDINO** – The Board of Supervisors approved three agreements on Tuesday to secure \$65.5 million in state bond funding for key transportation projects, including reconstructing interchanges at Cherry and Citrus avenues on Interstate 10 and building a railroad grade separation on Glen Helen Parkway.

The agreements between the County and the California Transportation Commission require the County to commit \$25 million for the projects in order to secure \$65.5 million from Prop. 1B, a statewide transportation bond initiative passed by voters in November 2006.

The County's portion is expected to come from development fees; however, if development fees cannot cover the cost, the County can request a loan of Measure I dollars from San Bernardino Associated Governments, the County's transportation agency. Measure I is a half-cent sales tax approved by San Bernardino County voters. Measure I funds are used for local transportation projects.

"This funding represents an unprecedented investment in the County's transportation system," Board of Supervisors Chairman Paul Biane said. "With these dollars, the County and its partners can move forward with three vital projects that will provide traffic relief for thousands and thousands of drivers on a daily basis."

The funding will help pay for the reconstruction of the out-dated interchanges at Cherry and Citrus avenues on I-10. The County and the City of Fontana both committed dollars for the projects in order to secure Prop. 1B funding. The level of service at the two interchanges is rated "F" by the California Department of Transportation. This is the lowest grade possible. In addition, the two interchanges must be reconstructed to accommodate a project that will add carpool lanes on I-10 from Haven Avenue in Ontario to Redlands.

The funding will also pay for a railroad grade separation on Glen Helen Parkway in Devore. Nearly 100 trains – some more than a mile long – cross Glen Helen Parkway daily, causing long traffic delays on the alternative route between I-15 and I-215. Glen Helen Parkway is also the gateway to Glen Helen Regional Park, one of the County's most popular destinations, as well as the San Manuel Amphitheater.

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